

NATIONAL OYSTER REPORT

- July 2020 -



Oysters Australia is trialling the publication of a bimonthly National Oyster Report. The intent of the report is to increase transparency, facilitating access to information. The information presented below is a summary of feedback from each jurisdiction. Thanks to the South Australian Oyster Growers Association, Oysters Tasmania & NSW Farmers Association to help collect data.

If you have any feedback, or suggested improvements on future content, please contact Andy Myers on management@oystersaustralia.org.

Comments from the supply chain — Blue Harvest:

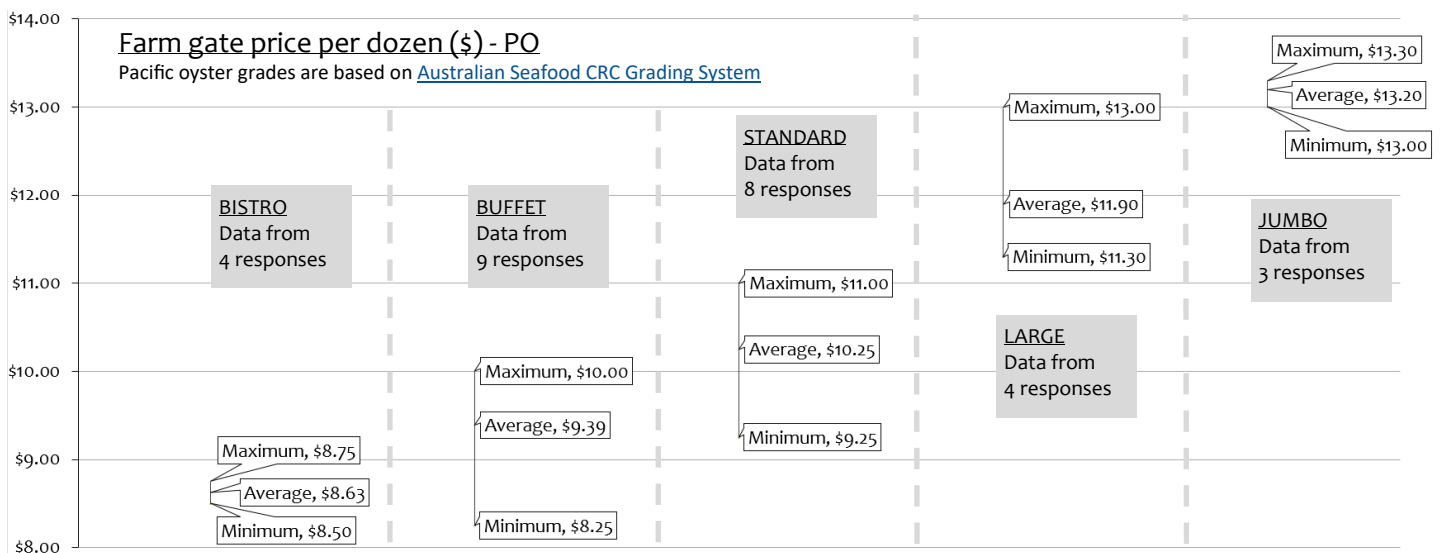
With the combination of winter slowing demand and COVID hospitality closures, demand has been well below historical levels for the past few months. This has correlated with an increase in supply from all States. Despite this situation causing some downward pressure on price, the most significant difference we have noted is the increasing quality expectations of customers, with little or no acceptance of oysters that are not in A-grade condition. Top quality oysters continue to sell well but those that are not at their best are struggling to find a home regardless of their price, and although demand will increase as we come into Spring and Summer, we believe this trend will remain for the foreseeable future.



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Tasmania

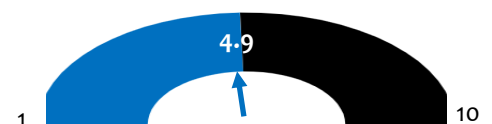
- 9 Responses received from Tasmania
- Insufficient data received on condition to include in this report



Comments

- Growth has backed off across most bays over winter
- For this time of year however, there has been some moderate growth on the back of rainfall events delivering nutrients to the coast
- Demand from the Melbourne market is fluctuating with Covid-19 restrictions

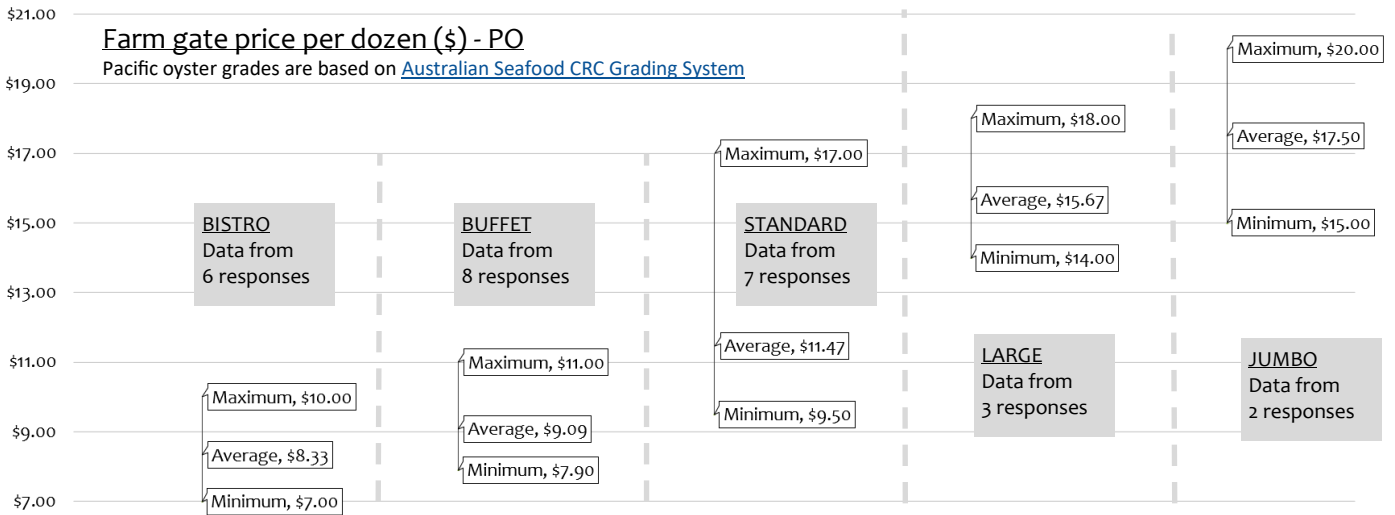
Relative production ie. volume of market ready stock compared to 2 months ago



- 1 = significantly less stock available
- 5 = production stable
- 10 = significantly more stock available

South Australia

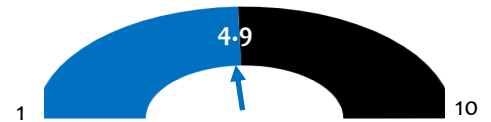
- 10 Responses received from South Australia
- Insufficient data received on condition to include in this report



Comments

- Reasonable winter growth, with some farmers reporting lifting stock to slow it down
- Excellent growing season reported in Coffin Bay with minimal mortality
- Good condition although food counts are relatively low

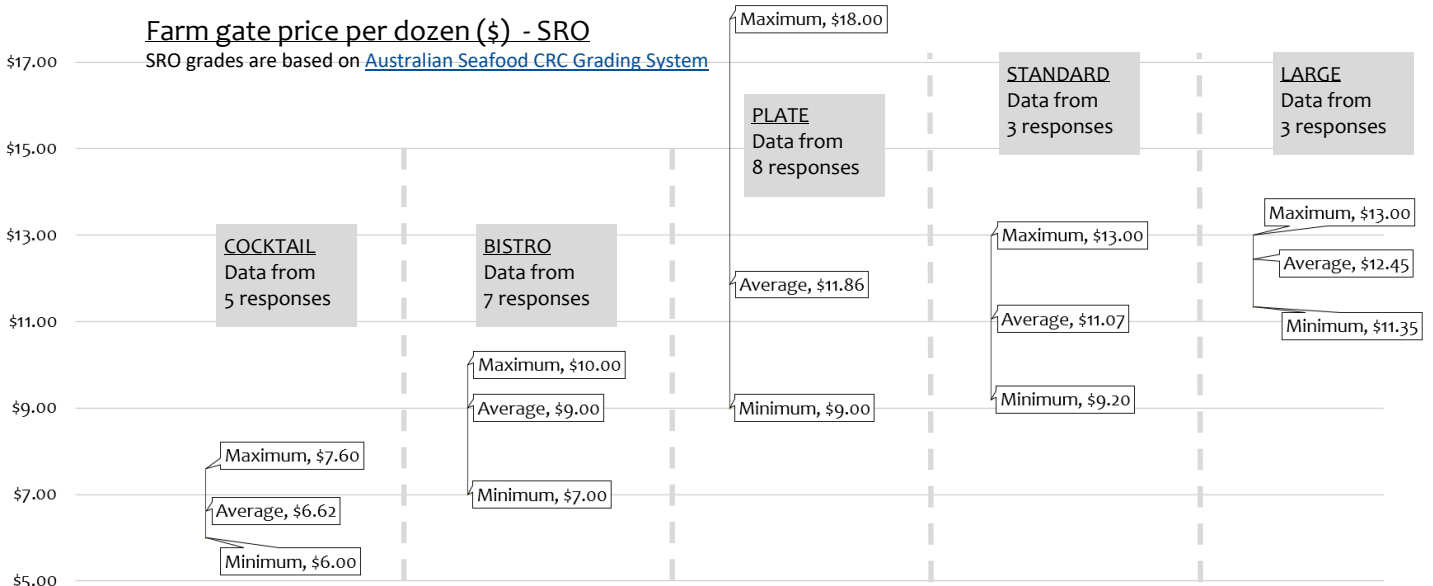
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New South Wales

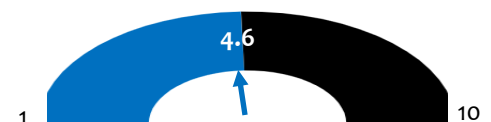
- 10 Responses received from New South Wales
- Insufficient data received on condition to include in this report



Comments

- Some growers reporting mortality (between 10-30%) related to ash impacts following the bushfires—especially in the south of the state
- Oysters have held good condition, although some areas reported multiple spawning events due to high tides
- Currently no evidence of significant winter mortality

Relative production i.e. volume of market ready stock compared to 2 months ago



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